

Florida Atlantic University Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing  
Archives of Caring in Nursing  
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The Vernoff-Migdal Collection:  
Glimpses of a Nursing Career, Circa 1930 – 1990

### Collection Description

**Extent:** 1 box

**Provenance:** Ellen B. Migdal, daughter of Esther Vernoff Migdal, RN

**Access:** The collection is unrestricted. It is a teaching collection.

**Citation:** The Vernoff-Migdal Collection, Archives of Caring in Nursing, Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing, Florida Atlantic University. X2011.MUS.01

**Note:** Scanned copies of each document and photograph, and photographs of the physical artifacts are available in a notebook for open access in the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing, Professional Practice Lab (Room 220), as a teaching collection. The physical artifacts are available for viewing on request in the same area.

**Brief Biography of Esther Vernoff Migdal:** Esther Migdal was trained at Lebanon Hospital School of Nursing, Bronx, NY, from 1932-1934. She had a long career as a public health nurse, and worked as a nurse until her retirement in 1990.

#### **Collection Contents:**

1. Photographs – formal portrait during nursing career (undated); Lebanon Hospital School of Nursing, Bronx, New York, 1932-1934 - casual photos with other nurses who appear to be fellow students
2. Education - Lebanon Hospital School of Nursing, Bronx, New York, 1932-1934; Hunter College, School of Education, New York City, 1928-1932, 1935-1943, 1945-1947; Vassar Summer Institute, Poughkeepsie, NY, July-August 1945. Collection contains scans of yearbook pages, commencement exercise programs, correspondence/information on Vassar Summer Institute, and 1-page typescript/mimeographed sheet, “Abdellah’s Twenty-One Nursing Problems.” See also item 6, Nursing textbook collection.
3. World War II – Letters:
  - a. War Manpower Commission, Office for Emergency Management, Procurement and Assignment Service for Nurses, Albany, NY, to Esther Vernoff, June 1, 1944. Classification as “Public Health Nurse - essential for civilian nursing service.”
  - b. The Emergency Medical Service of the City of New York, to Ester Vernoff, October 21, 1944. Appreciation for “volunteer services rendered ... in Citizens Defense Nurse Corps during World War II.” Includes photocopy of medal (Civil Defense).
  - c. City of New York Department of Hospitals. Civilian Nurse Merit Award Ceremony, October 14, 1944. Mayor F.H LaGuardia addressed the honorees and presented merit award pins and certificates.

4. Public Health Nursing Career – Application for the position of Consultant Public Health Nurse, City of New York, Municipal Civil Service Commission, April 28, 1950. [14 pp., includes employment history including detailed lists of duties]

5. The Defibrillator Story – Actual defibrillator (3.5” x 4” x 1”; 9.5 oz.) that was implanted in Esther Vernoff Migdal’s husband, Morris Migdal, in 1995. Letter describing the circumstances is archived. Surgery was performed by Richard M. Luceri, M.D., at Holy Cross Hospital, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

6. Nursing textbook collection. Books are available for student/public examination, housed in Professional Practice Lab, Room 220.

Blumgarten, A. S., M.D., F.A.C.P. (1931). *Textbook of materia medica* (5<sup>th</sup> ed., completely revised). New York, NY: The Macmillan Company. [623 pp.; 22 cm; holographic notes in end papers]

Deaver, George G., M.D., B.P.E. (1939). *Fundamentals of physical examination*. Philadelphia and London: W.B. Saunders Company. [299 pp.; 20 cm; holographic notes throughout]

Dorland, W. A. Newman, A.M., M.D. (1932). *American pocket medical dictionary* (14<sup>th</sup> ed., rev.). Philadelphia and London: W.B. Saunders Company. [837 pp.; 16 cm.]

Gardner, Mary Sewell, R.N., A.M. (1936). *Public health nursing* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed. rev.). New York, NY: The Macmillan Company. [476 pp.; 22 cm.]

Gesell, Arnold, M.D., & Ilg, Frances L., M.D. (1943). *Infant and child in the culture of today: The guidance of development in home and nursery school* (14<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York and London: Harper & Brothers Publishers. [399 pp.; 24 cm.]

Gesell, Arnold, M.D., & Ilg, Frances L., M.D. (1946). *The child from five to ten* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). New York and London: Harper & Brothers Publishers. [475 pp.; 24 cm.]

Harmer, Bertha, R.N., B.S., A.M. (1931). *Text-book of the principles and practice of nursing* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed. rev.). New York, NY: The Macmillan Company. [738 pp.; 22 cm.]

Holt, L. Emmett, M.D., ScD., LL.D., & Howland, John, A.M., M.D. (1928). *The diseases of infancy and childhood for the use of students and practitioners of medicine*. New York and London: D. Appleton and Company. [1018 pp.; 24 cm.; some holographic notes in end papers; binding is broken]

Kimber, Diana Clifford, & Gray, Carolyn E., A.M. (1931). *Textbook of anatomy and physiology* (8<sup>th</sup> ed., completely revised and rewritten). New York, NY: The Macmillan Company. [629 pp.; 22 cm.]

The National Organization for Public Health Nursing. (1935). *Manual of public health nursing* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). New York, NY: The Macmillan Company. [253 pp.; 21 cm.]

Stokes, John H., M.D. (1937). *Dermatology and syphilology for nurses, including social hygiene* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed., reset). Philadelphia and London: W.B. Saunders Company. [368 pp.; 20 cm.]

End Finding Aid, x2011.MUS.01

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